



Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



2014 Drought Response Report

State Operations Center Situation Brief – March 3, 2014



Situational Summary

Information as of 3/3/14

Strong winter storms hit California beginning Wednesday, 2/26, bringing heavy rain and snow across the state. Both Northern and Southern California received significant rain, and the Sierra Nevada's gained substantial snowpack. However, the state continues to be in a severe drought. Reservoir levels remain low despite the recent storms. The drought could result in severe impacts to municipal water supplies, agriculture (plants and livestock) and firefighting capabilities for several months. The State Operations Center (SOC) continues to be activated to monitor the situation statewide, and support regional and local operational areas.

Drought Task Force leaders begin regional meetings. Task Force leaders will next travel to Merced for meetings on Tuesday, 3/4/14. In one week after it was introduced, emergency drought legislation passed both chambers of the California legislature and was signed by the Governor.

- Thirteen counties and three Native American tribes have proclaimed a local state of emergency as a result of the drought. California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) orders private water utilities to implement 20% voluntary water use reductions. The CPUC regulates all for-profit water utilities in the state.
- The recent snowpack survey conducted on 2/27/14, recorded California snowpack at 24% of normal. A more recent update using automated devices after the recent storm (March 2) shows snowpack at 32% of normal.
- DWR has announced that water essential for health and safety will be delivered through the state water project in spite of the zero allocation policy. Deliveries will be boosted if storms produce enough rain and snow to increase reservoir storage and the snow pack.



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Drought Impacts

1. Drinking Water (Information as of 3/3/14)

- Despite the “zero” allocation, water essential for health and safety will still be delivered. Nearly all people and areas served by the State Water Project also have other sources of water, but most of these also are stressed by three successive dry years. Deliveries will be boosted if storms produce enough rain and snow to increase reservoir storage and the snow pack.
- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is providing technical and funding assistance to help several communities facing near-term drinking water shortages and is monitoring water systems across the state to determine where else it can provide support. It is expected that the current winter storms will help to recharge ground water for local wells.
- (CDPH) activated an Information Line to answer concerns or questions about public drinking water systems. Contact (855) 737-1796, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, effective Monday, February 24, 2014.

2. Fires (Information as of 3/3/14)

- Fire risk, which has been high, will be lower as a result of the two storm systems passing through the state Wednesday and Friday. CALFIRE reports that this current fire activity is well above the year-to-date average of 200 fires, burning 626 acres.

Drought Impacts (continued)

3. Economic Impacts (Information as of 3/3/14)

- Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack declared two more California counties, Riverside and San Diego official disaster areas, bringing the total number of counties in this category to 56 of the 58 counties. Farmers in these counties are eligible for low interest emergency loans and other disaster assistance programs.
- By law, SBA makes Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack declared this disaster on February 26, 2014.
- No information is available yet regarding impact on labor due to drought. Employment Development Department (EDD) will be sending weekly updates.

4. Agricultural Impacts (Information as of 3/3/14)

- On Tuesday, 3/4/14, California Department of Food and Agriculture will meet at University of California-Merced to discuss the drought's impact on farmers, ranchers, and farmworkers.

5. Community Impacts (Information as of 3/3/14)

- Farmworker groups will be participating in the meeting on 3/4/14 at the University of California-Merced

Federal Resources/Actions

Information as of 3/3/14

- Water managers from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation have announced initial 2014 water allocations to those who receive water from the federal Central Valley Water Project. These allocations include 0% projected allocation to agriculture users south of the Delta, similar to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) allocation in late January, which reflect historic lows in available water. The Bureau will update these allocations in the coming months based on changes in precipitation and drought conditions.
- The Bureau of Reclamation also highlighted last week longer term actions that will increase the reliability and sustainability of the federal water system in California. These federal actions align with California state government's recently released Water Action Plan.
- The National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA) announced it will apply remote sensing technology to detail impacts of the drought, such as fallowed fields and reduced groundwater supplies. NASA is providing this information to the state's DWR to help manage water resources.

State Resources

Information as of 3/3/14

Governor Brown signed emergency legislation that provides funding for shovel-ready water projects and emergency assistance to communities hurt by the drought. The proposal also streamlines state rules to enable more water recycling, strong enforcement of water rights and housing assistance to migrant workers. Funding in the bill includes:

- \$549 million for infrastructure grants to increase storm water capture and use of recycled water, improve management of groundwater storage, and strengthen water conservation.
- \$40 million from the proceeds of the state's cap-and-trade program to help local water agencies improve their water and energy efficiency, help farmers upgrade irrigation and water pumping systems to reduce water and energy use, and to enable retrofits in commercial and residential buildings that improve water and energy efficiency.
- \$25 million for emergency food assistance in areas hard-hit by the drought.
- \$21 million for housing-related assistance to drought victims.
- \$15 million to help communities that face drinking water shortages access alternative water supplies.
- \$14 million to improve groundwater management across the state, including help to disadvantaged communities with groundwater contamination exacerbated by the drought.

State Advance/Strategic Planning

Information as of 2/18/14

State actions looking forward for 30, 60,120 days ahead will focus on:

- State and federal funding and legislative actions.
- Agricultural support, including USDA programs and other assistance to farmers.
- Actions to address water system operations and water supply, including curtailments, transfers, delta emergency actions.
- Actions to assess and assist with emergency needs related to drinking water.
- Assessment of hydropower generation, and any direct or indirect impacts to the electricity supply.
- Actions to address long-term habitat preservation.
- Community support needs and delivery of needed services such as food, rental/housing assistance, utilities assistance and support to non-profit organizations.
- Public health and safety issues such as increased fire threat, security threats, and activation of contingency plans.

Current Missions

Information as of 2/26/14

Open Missions:

1. 2014-Inland-2185 Tuolumne County does not have a water master or any alternative resources to assist in determining the health of their ground water system. Tuolumne County has requested state agency expertise to assist with this determination. DWR has taken the lead and is coordinating with CDPH and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to gather recent groundwater level and water quality information that can be used to populate a GIS map. DWR has produced a one page information paper outlining this information and expertise the State can offer. [This information paper has been forwarded to Inland Region and they have submitted it to the County. DWR and CDPH representatives are attending a meeting in Sonora, CA on 2/28/14.](#)

CDPH Drinking Water Critical Systems

Information as of 2/25/14

System Name	County	District/LPA	Location
Camp Condor	Kern	Tehachapi	Taft, CA
Lake of the Woods MWC	Kern	Tehachapi	Frazier Park, CA
Whispering Pines Apts	Mariposa	Merced	Mid-Pines, CA
City of Willits	Mendocino	Mendocino	Willits, CA
Redwood Valley CWD	Mendocino	Mendocino	Redwood Valley, CA
Washington Ridge Conservation Camp	Nevada	Valley	Nevada City, CA
Ophir Gardens	Placer	LPA	Auburn, CA

Notes:

LPA = Local Primary Agency Usually a County Environments Health Department

CWS = Community Water System

CWD = County Water System

CSD = Community Service District

MWC = Mutual Water Company



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CDFA Information Sessions on Drought Resources

Information as of 2/26/14

California Department of Food and Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be holding informational sessions on drought resources for farmers, ranchers and farmworkers in several locations throughout the state

Tentative Date	Time	Venue	Address	City
3/19/2014	TBD	Mendocino County	TBD	Cloverdale

County Drought Task Force Meetings

Information as of 2/28/14

County Drought Task Force Upcoming Meetings		
Inland Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
Butte	2/18/2014	5/19/2014
Madera	2/18/2014	3/11/2014
Merced		3/19/2014
Modoc	2/25/2014	
Nevada	1/22/2014	2/28/2014
Placer	2/19/2014	3/12/2014
Plumas	2/24/2014	3/17/2014
Sacramento	2/21/2014	3/7/2014
San Joaquin	2/19/2014	3/19/2014
Siskiyou	2/19/2014	
Solano		
Stanislaus	2/18/2014	3/3/2014
Sutter		3/13/2014
Tehama		
Tulare		3/10/2014
Tuolumne	2/11/2014	2/28/2014
Coastal Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
Mendocino	2/26/2014	
Monterey		
San Mateo		3/18/2014
Santa Clara	2/27/2014	
Southern Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
San Luis Obispo		3/4/2014
Santa Barbara		3/12/2014



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County Updates

Mariposa (as of 2/28/14):

- County OES met with Yosemite-Mariposa Regional Water Advisory Council. This IRWM group is comprised of representatives from DWR, Local Water Districts, NRCS, EDC, Resource Conservation District, MERG, County Department Officials and Board of Supervisors representatives. Three weeks ago the stakeholders were contacted by County OES requesting drought information data. This group is in the process of collecting data utilizing a Vulnerability Assessment Checklist. Information derived from this checklist should give a complete and accurate assessment of the long term issues that face Mariposa County regarding drought.

Plumas (as of 2/28/14):

- Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District and Feather River Resource Conservation District are holding a Drought Preparedness workshop for Agricultural producers on February 28 in Vinton, CA.

Merced (as of 2/28/14):

- Merced County has established a Drought Task Force and their first meeting will be on 3/19/14.

County Updates (continued)

Sutter (as of 2/26/14):

- The drought is affecting rangeland forage for livestock; forage is non-existent. Hay stocks are critically low and drought predictions are not favorable for hay production this spring/summer. Ranchers are looking for any feed alternatives, such as grains and almond hulls. Livestock not critical to sustaining ranching operations are or have already been sold. There are limited hay stocks where prices have more than doubled, and those that have stored hay and normally sell to ranchers are keeping it for themselves. Sutter County continues to monitor drought reports, coordinate with local agencies as needed, assess developing situations, provide specific information/concerns to Management, and provide general awareness information to the public/press through the PIO.
- There is a need for State Mutual Aid with the primary concern being insufficient forage for livestock grazing within the Sutter Buttes. Ranchers hay stocks are dwindling rapidly because of the need to supplant their dry land pastures. Secondary concern is lack of water for livestock. Water wells will definitely fail by summer, adding costs to re-drill and replace pumps. Also, costs to transport potable water to ranches will be costly.

County Updates (continued)

Santa Barbara (as of 2/26/14):

- Santa Barbara County has submitted an Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA) request requesting resources from Ventura County OES. The task includes assisting with the development of situation reports and action plans pertaining to the drought proclamation. Ventura County has responded to the request and will be sending someone to assist.
- Santa Barbara County will be doing maximum cloud seeding from 6 Automated High Output Ground Seeding Systems (AHOGS) and by aircraft during the coming two storms.

Mendocino (as of 2/25/14):

- Redwood Valley County Water District (RVCWD) submitted a Prop 84 funding project request to California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Head Quarters. The total project cost is estimated to be \$400,000, and they are asking for the maximum amount of Prop 84 funding for this project of \$250,000. The project calls for building a 6-inch intertie between the RVCWD system and Calpella County Water District. The water system is still looking for funding/alternatives for this part of the project. The funding agreement, if approved, will require that RVCWD is no longer supplying agriculture and that RVCWD has mandatory conservation levels for their residential customers. It will also require that they have contracts in place with Calpella County Water District to transfer the water and with another community water system (with adequate water rights) to supply the water before fund reimbursements are given.
- The City of Willits reported that they are applying for an additional \$500,000 from USDA.

County Updates (continued)

Tuolumne County (as of 2/21/14):

- The County needs to evaluate the ground water systems that support 136 small water agencies and private well and septic owners that are not part of the Tuolumne Utilities District System (TUD). The County does not have a water master or other expertise to assist in determining the health of our ground water system. The County has requested state agency assistance with this determination. DWR is the lead state agency for this request.
- The Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) has requested 2300 Acre Feet (AF) transfer from the New Melones reservoir to supplement their current water needs. A conference call was conducted with Inland REOC, SOC, Tuolumne County UD, Tuolumne EOC and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to discuss the County's concerns. Local solutions are being exhausted first. Coordination is continuing with TUD.

Stanislaus County (as of 2/26/14):

- On 2/25/14 Turlock Irrigation District (TID) approved a resolution that TID is in a state of drought condition. They adopted a resolution setting the 2014 irrigation season to run March 27 to October 8. The amount of water for irrigation customers was set at a 20-inch cap, which is amount the lowest amounts set by the district.
- Because of drought measures taken by the South San Joaquin Irrigation District, Woodward Reservoir will be closed to recreational use, probably through the summer. The services for the reservoir are managed by Stanislaus County Department of Parks and Recreation. There is an anticipated economic impact that is still being determined.

County Updates (continued)

Fresno County (as of 2/25/14):

- The cities of Huron and Orange Cove jurisdictions have taken actions to conserve water and each is working with USDA and CDPH to apply for funding to help them secure more water if it is available. The City of Huron does not have any wells and will be talking to the CDPH Drinking Water Program about getting a grant to drill a well. Huron is working with the USDA to get assistance to help pay for the increased cost of water.
- The Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner is working with the County Farm Bureau to attempt to accurately quantify the potential impacts that the drought will have on the agricultural economy in the County. With the lack of water they expect to see a significant impact on agriculture as well as other industries. There has been a significant increase in the number of permits being issued to drill wells. Permits for well drilling have been approximately double what they were at this time last year. According to an informal survey of local well drillers the average wait time for a well is about 10-12 months. Wait times for domestic wells is about 5-10 months depending on the location.

Tulare (as of 2/26/14):

- Tulare County renewed their emergency proclamation on 2/25/14.

Lassen (as of 2/26/14)

- Lassen County is continuing to monitor the surface water and wells. At this time there are no adverse agricultural issues to report.

County Updates (continued)

Kings (as of 2/26/14):

- The City of Corcoran is currently patching and swabbing one of their wells, and will perform that same activity on all of the remaining wells especially the older wells. The city has installed two new deep water wells to replace existing wells that were no longer functional. They are working on reducing the amount of water needed for backwash and filter to waste which should save a significant amount of treated water. The City of Hanford is currently monitoring the cities well depths both static and pumping on a weekly basis and are currently taking water conservation measures in accordance with Hanford Municipal Code 13.04.150.

Shasta (as of 2/25/14):

- Shasta County Water Agency is experiencing some issues with water cutbacks from Board of Reclamation (BOR) and California Department of Water Resources (DWR). They were waiting to hear about deliveries and are preparing to take Phase 1 of their drought plan to the Water Board to ask for implementation of water conservation plans. The county obtains water mainly from Board of Reclamation (BOR) and California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as their source water but have other purchase options if water is available.
- The City of Redding received notice of a 60% cut back from Board of Reclamation (BOR) and California Department of Water Resources (DWR). In October of last year, tiered water rates were implemented to encourage conservation but also have wells that feed the system. They have additional resources available, but are unsure how much will be available. Continue to monitor and implement conservation methods, as needed.

County Updates (continued)

Glenn County (As of 2/26/14):

- The Water Alliance Committee consisting of Glenn County Irrigation District, Tehama Colusa Irrigation Authority, Orland Water Users, and the Glenn County Agriculture Commissioner met (last week) to analyze the lack of surface water for Agriculture use and what the affect might be if the ranchers and farmers start to use the deeper water supplies for irrigation. At this time there is not an issue but once the Agriculture community does begin to use wells for irrigation it can change quickly.

Tehama (As of 2/26/14):

- Public Works Director held a meeting on Tuesday with the local ranchers and farmers to discuss the water needs and irrigation. There was sharing on ground water levels and water districts needs. At the time the County is still not going to declare a local disaster and the Agriculture Community still feels they are able to handle water needs. There was discussion about how the Sheriff's Department would handle water thefts from agriculture wells or other ranchers water supplies.

Trinity (As of 2/26/14)

- Trinity County continues to monitor and evaluate the local water issues. There has been mention of a Drought Committee/task force. More information is expected at the next BOS meeting and continue to outreach with conservation methods and ideas. Many of the population are familiar with water hauling and issues associated with low water flows. Wildfire continues to be of concern for the summer.

County Updates (continued)

Contra Costa (as of 2/25/14):

- Zone 7 Water District supplies wholesale water to Dublin San Ramon Service District, which covers about one third of San Ramon, has used the term “emergency” and has asked for “voluntary” reductions in use. The major water districts are asking for “voluntary” 10-20% reductions as the Governor recommends. There is an emphasis on reducing leaks, waste and un-necessary outside watering. The water districts are requesting voluntary reductions in water use by consumers and there is no cost info at this time. Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) have said that they have “sufficient” amount of water in storage for this year, but are in the process of planning for less water in the future. CCWD gets its drinking water from the Delta and does not have a short-term water supply issue at this time. CCWD will have a better understanding of its long-term water supply situation in late February after the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) provides its initial water supply contract allocation notice to CCWD. CCWD’s service area population is 500,000. CCWD does not have a specific conservation in place but is urging customers to conserve in support of the Governor’s emergency declaration. CCWD has a robust ongoing conservation program and has initiated its drought task force planning effort to prepare for various water supply scenarios depending on how much precipitation will occur the rest of the winter and the amount of our water supply contract allocation from BOR.
- EBMUD Board of Directors asked for a 10% voluntary cutback from customers effective February 11 until further notice and their reservoir levels are at 63% capacity and 84% of average as of February 14. Focus is on conservation outreach on finding and fixing leaks and reducing outdoor water use, advising customers to continue using water wisely. Dublin San Ramon Service District supplies water to about 1/3 of San Ramon and are requesting a voluntary 20% reduction .

County Updates (continued)

Siskiyou (as of 2/28/14):

- Little Shasta and Lower Little Shasta receive their water from Dwinnel Dam for both Ag and domestic use. The communities of Big Springs and Grenada rely on Dwinnel Dam for year round domestic water use. The City of Montague relies on Dwinnel Dam water for domestic use during the summer months. Due to the lack of precipitation, Dwinnel Dam's water level is the lowest it's been since February of 1956. Water is scheduled to be released from Dwinnel Dam on 04/01/14 to the Grenada and Montague Irrigation Districts for irrigation. Without significant precipitation, no water will be released for irrigation to the Little Shasta and Lower Little Shasta and may ultimately result in a loss of domestic water to Grenada, Big Springs and Montague.
- The Siskiyou County Drought Task is planning on meeting on either 03/05 or 03/06.
- Siskiyou County plans on declaring a local emergency during the 03/11/14 Board of Supervisors meeting.
- EBMUD Board of Directors asked for a 10% voluntary cutback from customers effective February 11 until further notice and their reservoir levels are at 63% capacity and 84% of average as of February 14. Focus is on conservation outreach on finding and fixing leaks and reducing outdoor water use, advising customers to continue using water wisely. Dublin San Ramon Service District supplies water to about 1/3 of San Ramon and are requesting a voluntary 20% reduction.

Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 2/28/14

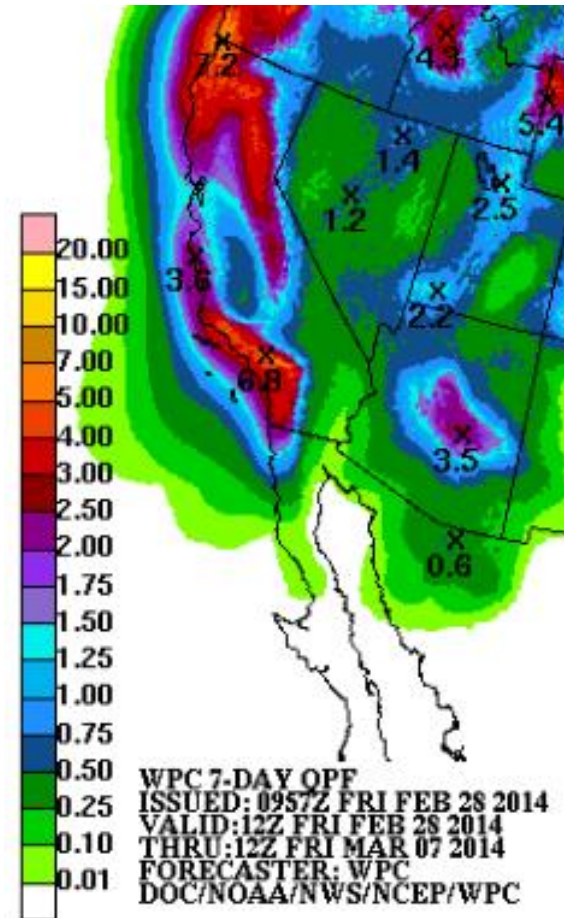
Northern & Central California

Eureka Weather:

Another shot of rain will pass through Friday morning followed by more showers as a storm system passes to our south. Saturday will trend drier but a wet weather pattern will continue next week.

San Francisco Weather:

A strong storm will bring rain and strong winds to the area overnight into Friday. Showers will taper off on Saturday with dry conditions Sunday. An active weather pattern will keep shower chances in the forecast off and on well into next week.



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Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 2/28/14

Central California and Southern San Joaquin Valley

Sacramento Weather:

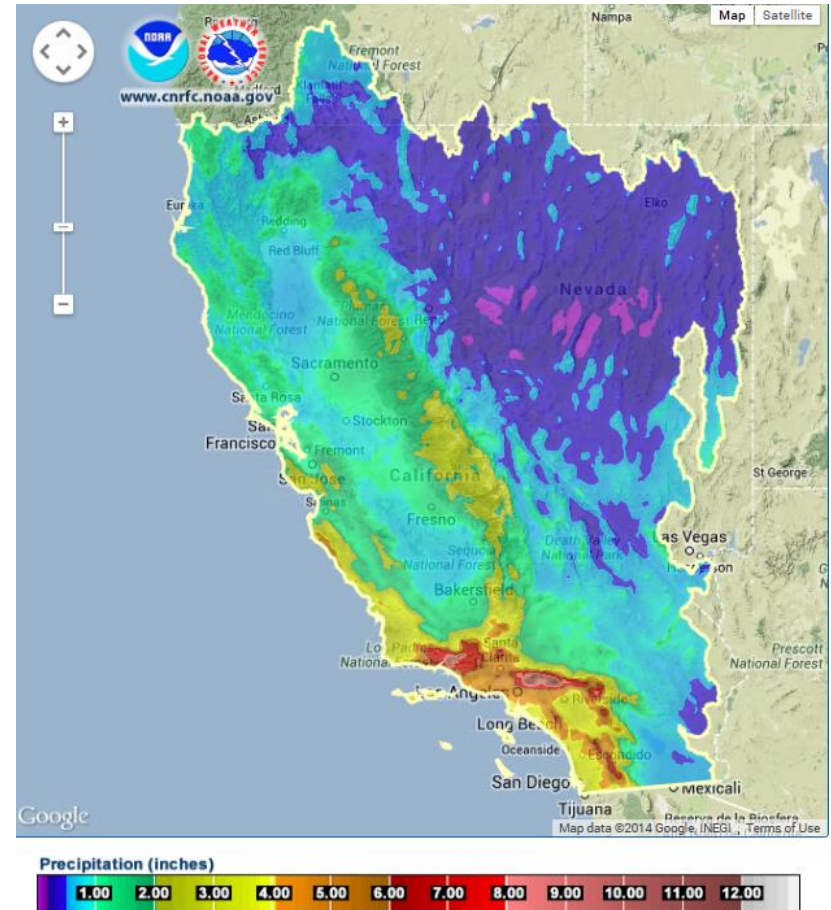
Wet weather continues into the weekend. Accumulating mountain snow will contribute to trans-Sierra travel difficulties today into Saturday. Isolated to scattered thunderstorms remain a possibility today. Drivers should be cautious due to slick roads from snow and rain.

Hanford Weather:

A Pacific storm will bring rain, higher elevation snow and locally gusty winds at times through Saturday. Isolated strong thunderstorms are expected this afternoon, a few may be severe. Weak high pressure is expected to briefly return Sunday and early next week.

California Precipitation Graphic

72 hour (2/28/14 – 3/3/14)



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Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 2/28/14

Southern California

Los Angeles Weather:

A vigorous winter storm will affect the area through Saturday. Expect rain, mountain snow, gusty winds, possible thunderstorms, waterspouts, urban flooding and mud and debris flows near recent burn areas. Rainfall will be intense at times. A clearing and drying trend will start Sunday afternoon, with clear weather expected with a warming trend for early next week.

San Diego, Western Riverside, and Southwestern San Bernardino Weather:

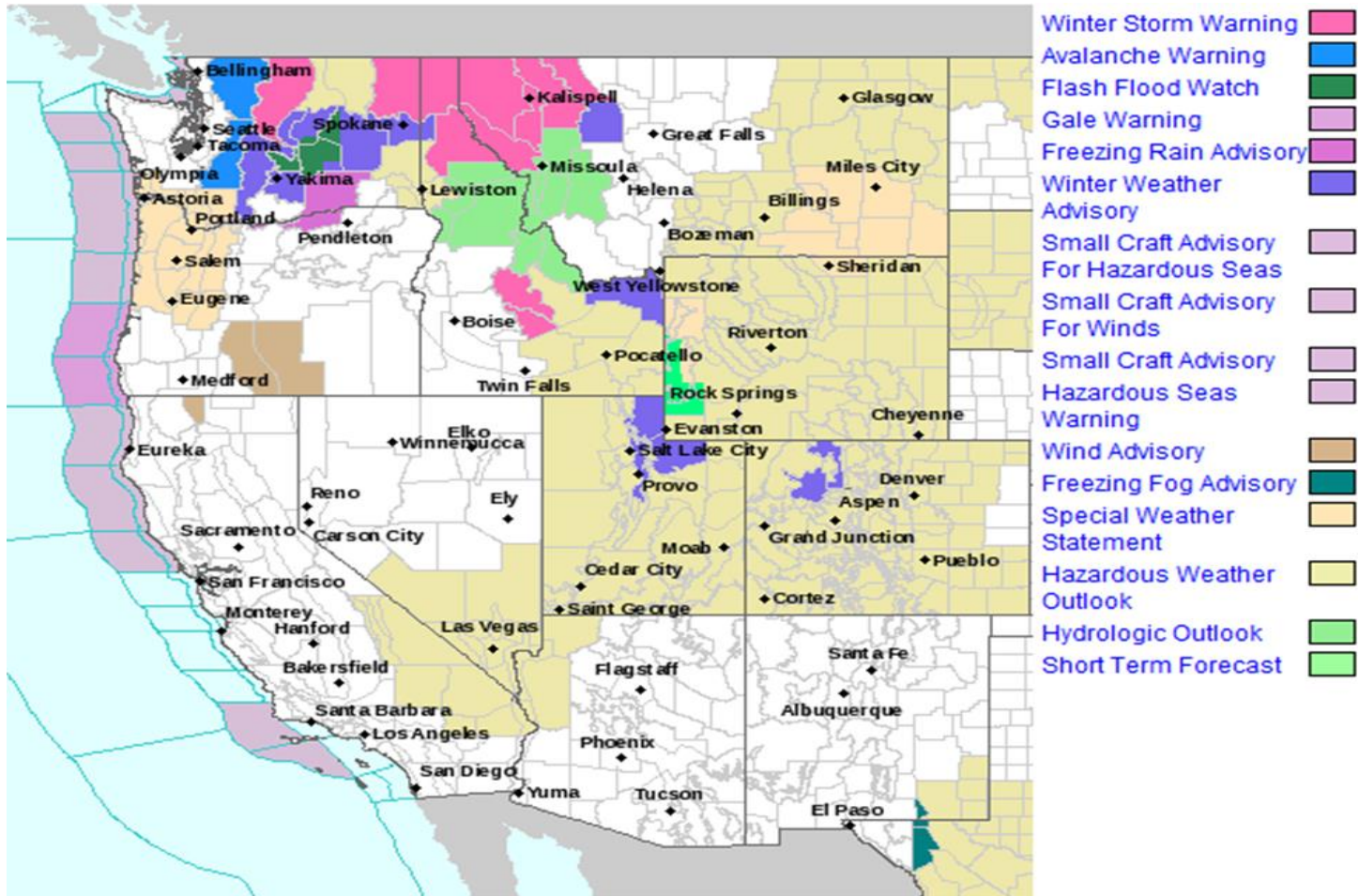
A strong Pacific low pressure system will move slowly inland through California through the weekend bringing periods of heavy precipitation and strong gusty southwest to west winds. Precipitation is expected to be heaviest and winds strongest today. Fair and dry weather with seasonal temperatures are expected for Monday through Thursday of next week.

Southeast California Weather:

A moist pacific storm will bring widespread rain and high elevation snow to the region today through this evening. Isolated thunderstorms will be possible this afternoon and evening which could lead to localized nuisance flooding in some areas. Scattered showers are then expected Saturday into Saturday night as the storm passes. Light showers could linger into Sunday with clearing expected Monday.

State Weather Map

Information as of 3/3/14



Last map update: Mar, 3rd 2014 at 9:59:58 am MST



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National 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook



Legend

Fuel Dryness

- Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
- Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Data Unavailable.

High Risk Events

- Windy and Dry
- Lightning

Missing Stations

- Devore

Issued: Monday, Mar 3, 2014

Parameters:

Predictive Service Area	Sun Mar 2	Mon Mar 3	Tue Mar 4	Wed Mar 5	Thu Mar 6	Fri Mar 7	Sat Mar 8	Sun Mar 9
SC01 - Eastern Sierra								
SC02 - Central Sierra								
SC03 - Southern Sierra								
SC04 - Sierra Foothills								
SC05 - Central Valley								
SC06 - Central Coast Interior								
SC07 - Central Coast								
SC08 - South Coast								
SC09 - Western Mountains								
SC10 - Eastern Mountains								
SC11 - Southern Mountains								
SC12 - Lower Deserts								
SC13 - Eastern Deserts								
SC14 - Central Mojave								
SC15 - Upper Deserts								
SC16 - Northern Deserts								

Weather

Temperatures will warm around 5 degrees and humidity will drop around 5% each day through Wednesday as a ridge of high pressure builds into the region from the southwest. Temperatures will be near normal today, with 50s in the mountains and mid 60s to low 70s in the valleys. Winds will be light through Wednesday. A couple of Pacific troughs moving inland across Northern California will bring scattered light showers to the far northern parts of Central California tonight through Tuesday morning and again Wednesday night through Thursday morning. The second trough will bring a couple degrees of cooling to the region Thursday and Friday. There will be westerly winds of 20 to 30 mph with gusts to 50 mph across the desert passes Thursday. A strong ridge of high pressure will build into California from the Pacific Ocean bringing well above normal temperatures and low humidity to the region this weekend.

Fuels/Fire Potential

There will be little or no fire activity across the region through the forecast period.

<http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/7Day.pdf>



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National 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook



Legend

Fuel Dryness

	Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
	Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
	Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
	Data Unavailable.

High Risk Events

W Wind

H Hot and Dry

Lightning

California - North Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Predictive Service Area	Sun Mar 2	Mon Mar 3	Tue Mar 4	Wed Mar 5	Thu Mar 6	Fri Mar 7	Sat Mar 8	Sun Mar 9
NC01 - North Coast								
NC02 - Mid Coast								
NC03A - Bay Area-Marine								
NC03B - Diablo/Santa Cruz Mtns								
NC04 - Northwestern Mtns								
NC05 - Sacramento Valley								
NC06 - Northeast CA								
NC07 - Northern Sierra								
NC08 - East Side								

Weather

The North Ops area will remain in a mild and wet pattern for the next seven days. Three system will pass through the region, all with snow levels 5000-6000 ft or higher. The current system will exit the region Tuesday morning. The second system will reach the North Coast late Tuesday and stall until finally spreading across the region Wednesday night and Thursday. The third system will arrive late Saturday and move through the region late Sunday and Monday before exiting late Monday.

Rainfall or rainfall equivalent totals over the 7-Day period will be 3-6 inches in the NW mountains. 2-4 inches elsewhere at higher elevations west of the Cascade-Sierra crest, 0.75-1.50 inches at lower elevations west of the crest and 1 inch or less east of the crest.

Fuels/Fire Potential

Fuels in all areas will remain in the **Moist** category throughout the 7-day period (and a bit beyond). The recent and incoming moisture has fostered new annual grass growth and perennial brush green-up in the lower elevations.

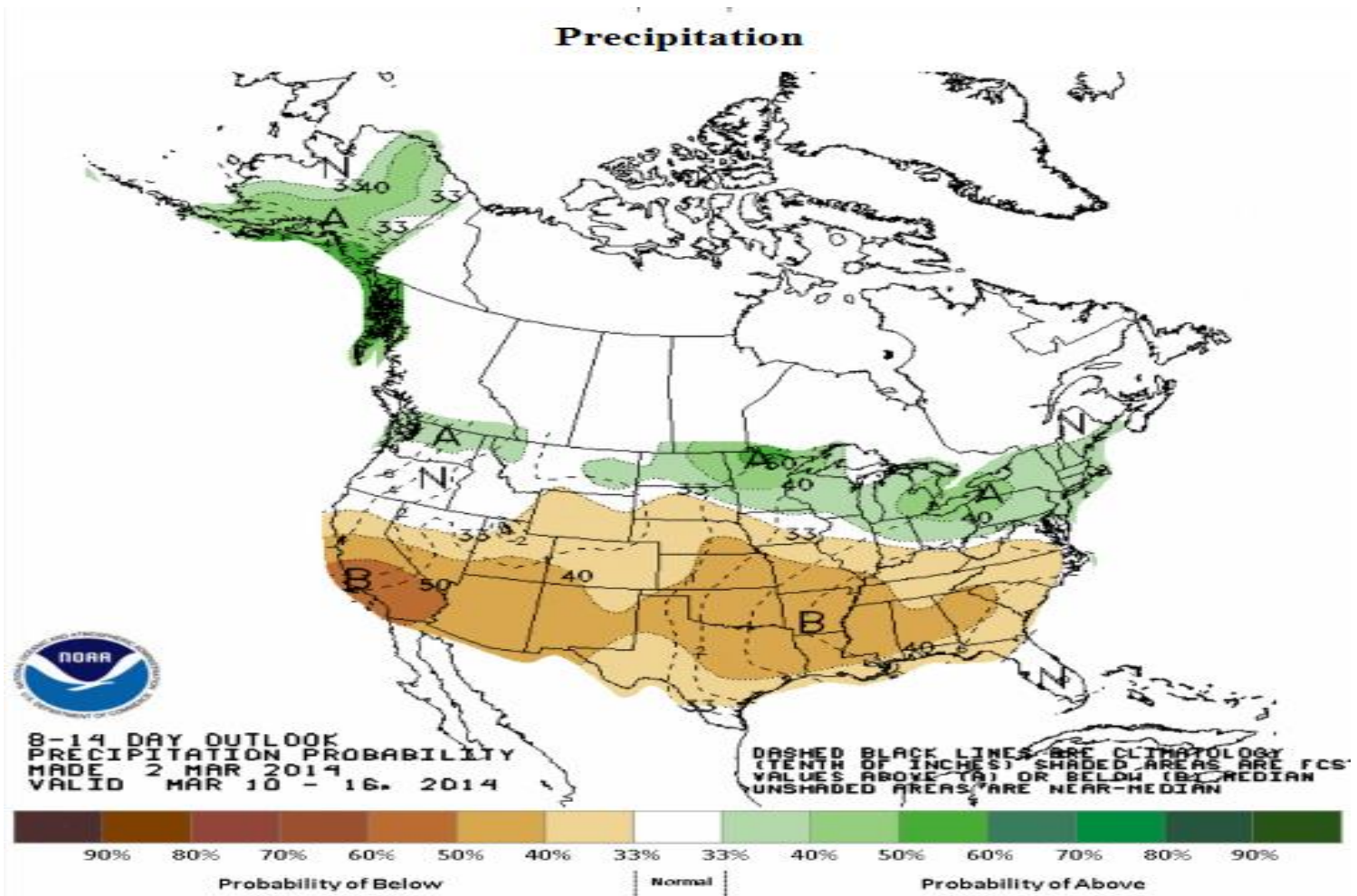
For prescribed burners, see the daily Smoke dispersion product at: http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/daily_smoke/Smoke.html

<http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/7day/action/forecast/8>



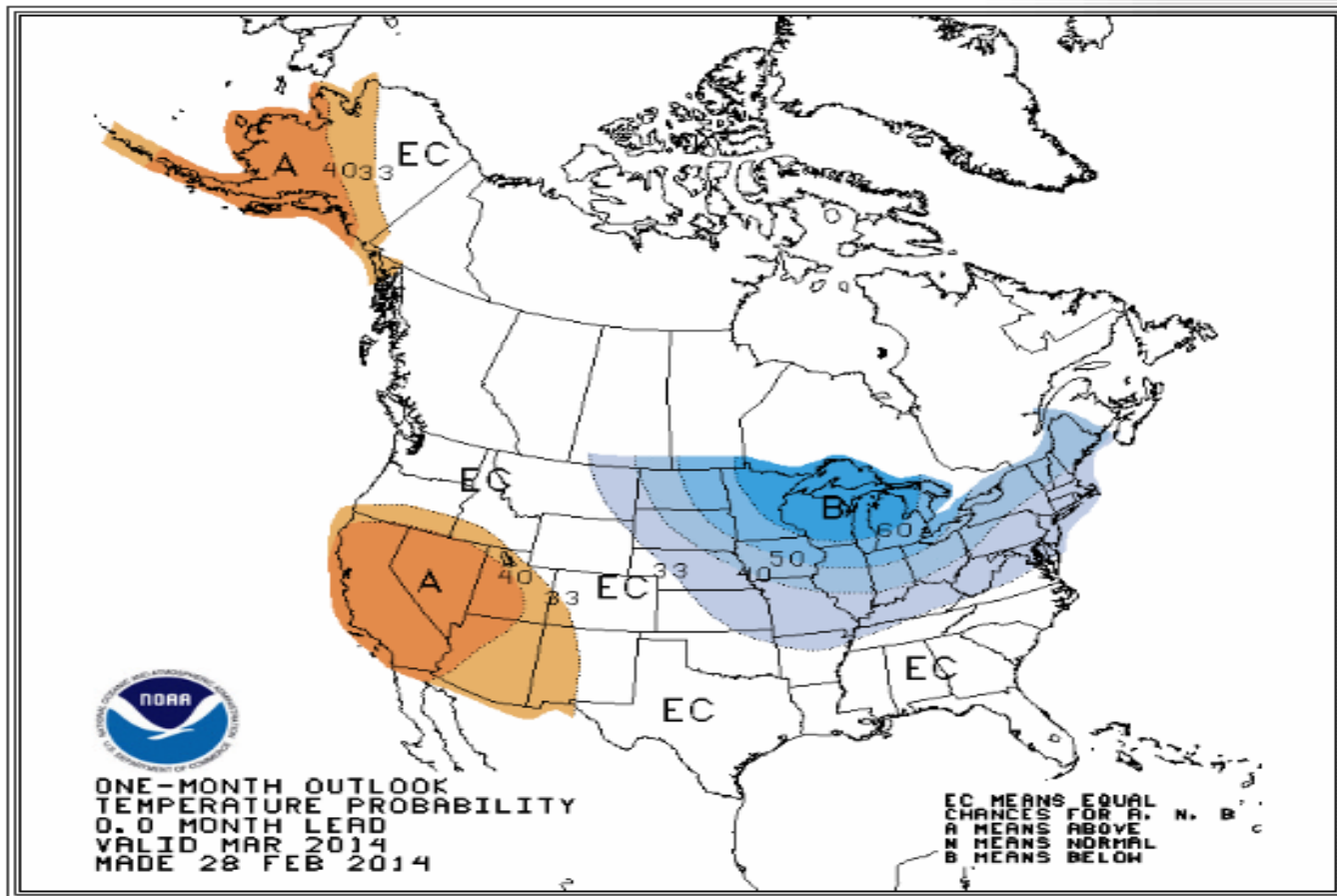
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8-14 Day Precipitation Probability Outlook for March 7 – March 13, 2014



<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/>

February-March Precipitation Probability Outlook



There is a greater chance for below normal precipitation in Southern California for the month of March.

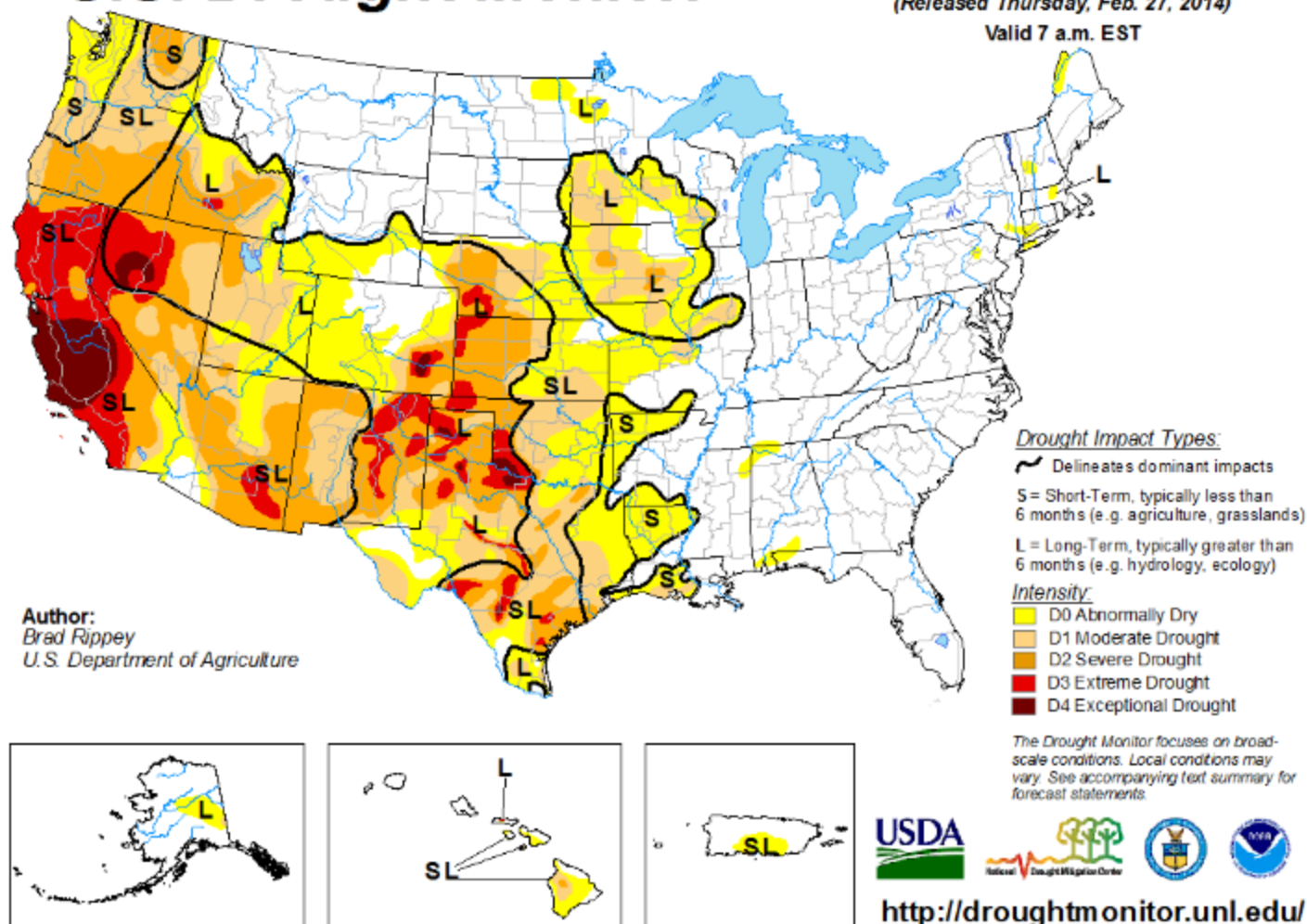
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>



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U.S. Drought Monitor

February 25, 2014
(Released Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



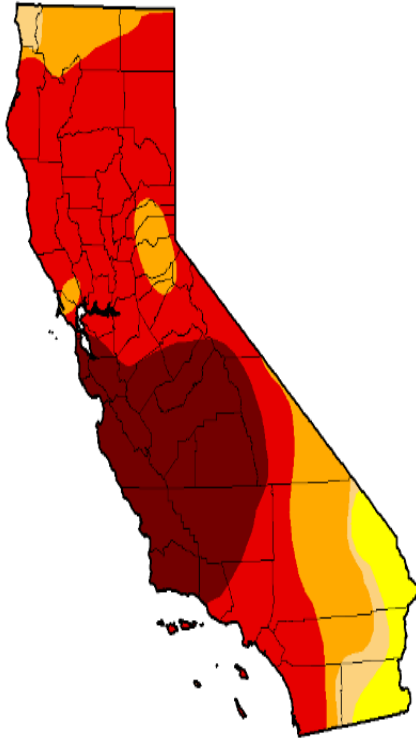
NOTE: To view regional drought conditions, click on map above. State maps can be accessed from regional maps

The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is Tuesday at 7 a.m. Eastern Time. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

Weather Summary - Current Drought Conditions in California

U.S. Drought Monitor

California



Download:

February 25, 2014

(Released Thursday February 27, 2014)

Valid 7 a.m. Eastern

Statistics type: ☒ Traditional (D0-D4, D1-D4, etc.) ☐ Categorical (D0, D1, etc.)

Drought Condition (Percent Area):

Week	Date	Nothing	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2/25/2014	0.00	100.00	94.56	90.82	73.83	26.21
Last Week	2/18/2014	0.00	100.00	94.54	90.82	68.30	14.62
3 Months Ago	11/26/2013	2.61	97.39	94.15	82.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Calendar Year	12/31/2013	2.61	97.39	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Water Year	10/1/2013	2.63	97.37	95.95	84.12	11.36	0.00
One Year Ago	2/26/2013	0.02	99.98	47.13	26.96	0.00	0.00

[View More Statistics](#)

Intensity:

- D0 - Abnormally Dry
- D1 - Moderate Drought
- D2 - Severe Drought
- D3 - Extreme Drought
- D4 - Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying [text summary](#) for forecast statements.

Author(s):

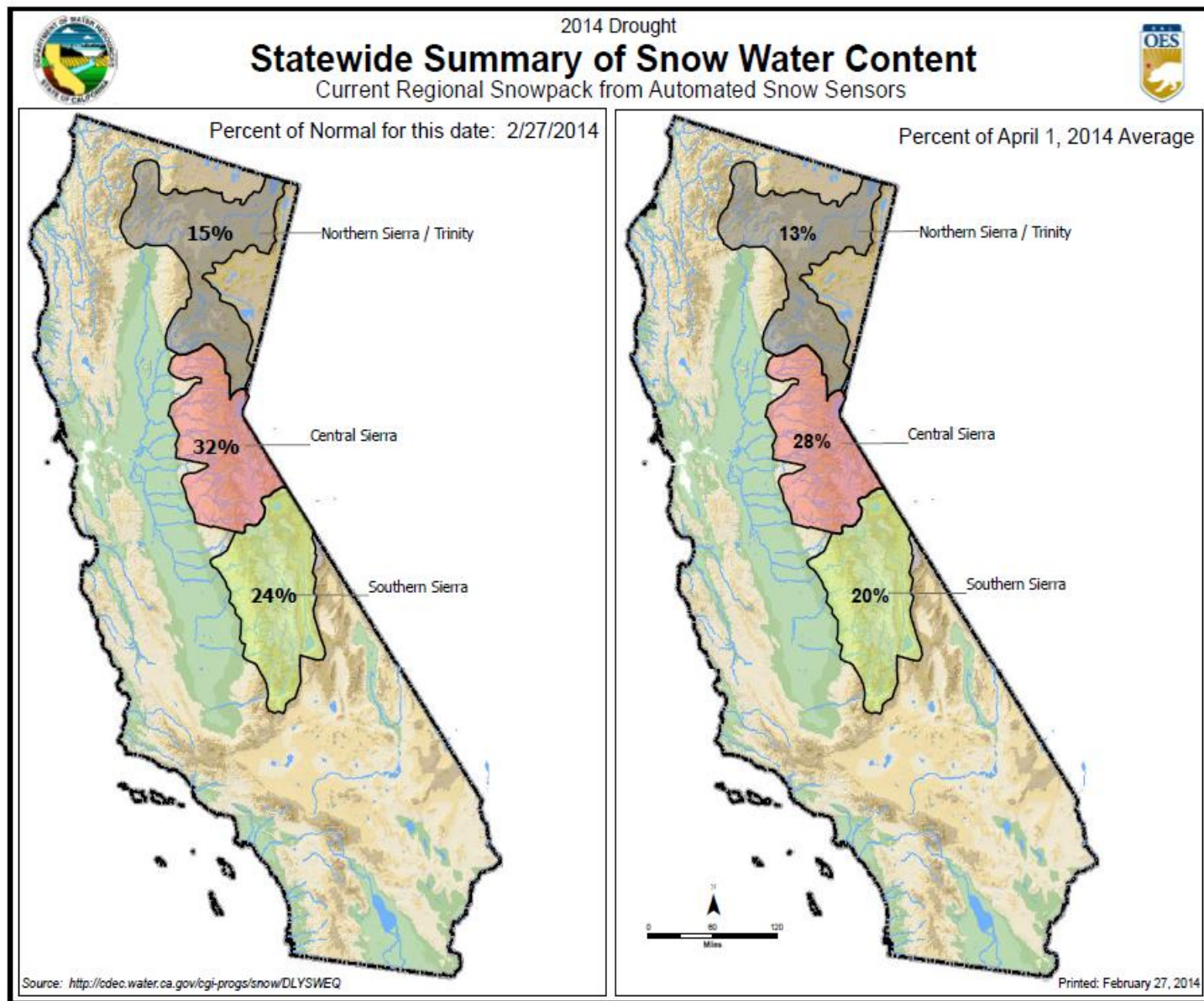
Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

The D4 (Exceptional Drought) is the worst drought category on the Drought Monitor and **the first time it's been used in California since this monitoring system started in 2000.** The degradation was made due to historically low rainfall amounts so far this winter, long-term precipitation deficits stretching several years, and a growing number of increasingly significant drought impacts. **In addition, 74% of California is now covered by D3/D4 conditions.**

Note: Updated Weekly

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

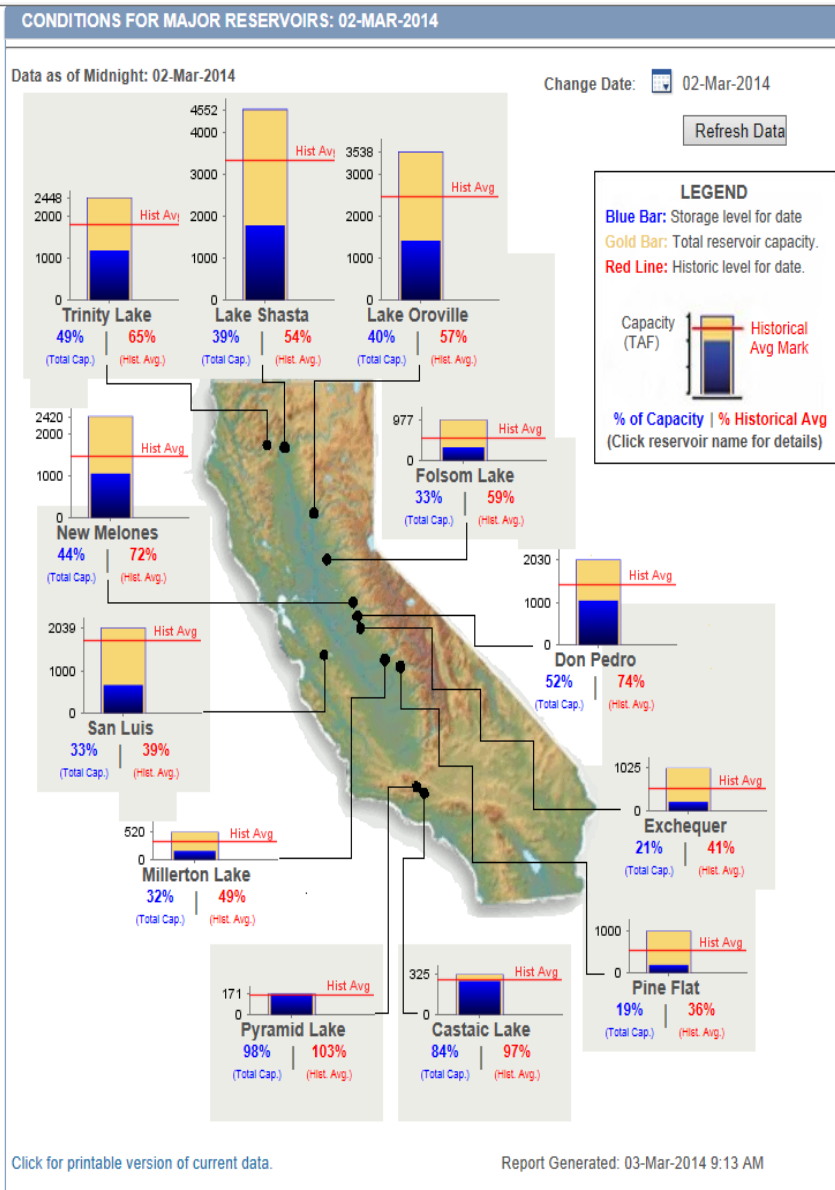
<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/droughtca.php>



<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/snowapp/sweq.action>



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Reservoir Levels

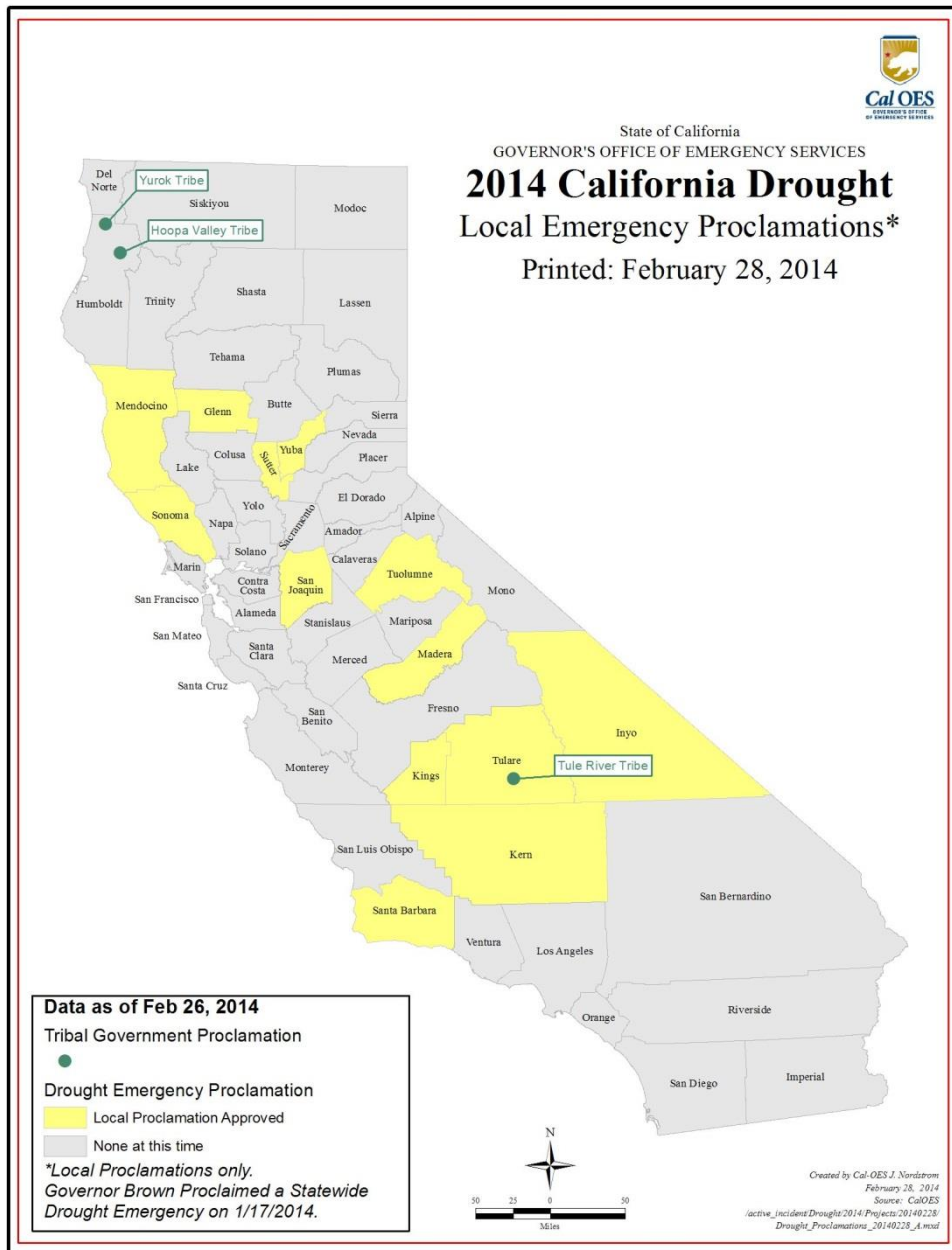
Many parts of California -- including Sacramento and Los Angeles -- marked calendar year 2013 as the driest on record. These extremely dry conditions follow two previous dry years statewide.

Storage in the reservoirs that typically help California cope with dry weather are well below average for this time of year.

River levels are low around the state. Along the North Coast, the Russian River, and the upper Sacramento River, levels are at their lowest points ever for this time of year.

Some water districts with a diversified portfolio of water sources and ample storage -- such as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 19 million people -- are prepared to weather a third dry winter.

Farmers who depend heavily on the State's two biggest water projects, the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, face minimal and uncertain supplies.



Proclamations

State

1/17/14 Governor Edmund G. Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency

Counties

Glenn (1/22/14)
Inyo (1/29/14)
Kern (1/14/14)
Kings (1/14/14)
Madera (1/17/14)
Mendocino (1/7/14)
San Joaquin (1/28/14)
Santa Barbara (1/17/14)
Sonoma (2/25/14)
Sutter (2/11/14)
Tulare (2/4/14)
Tuolumne (2/4/14)
Yuba (2/18/14)

Tribal

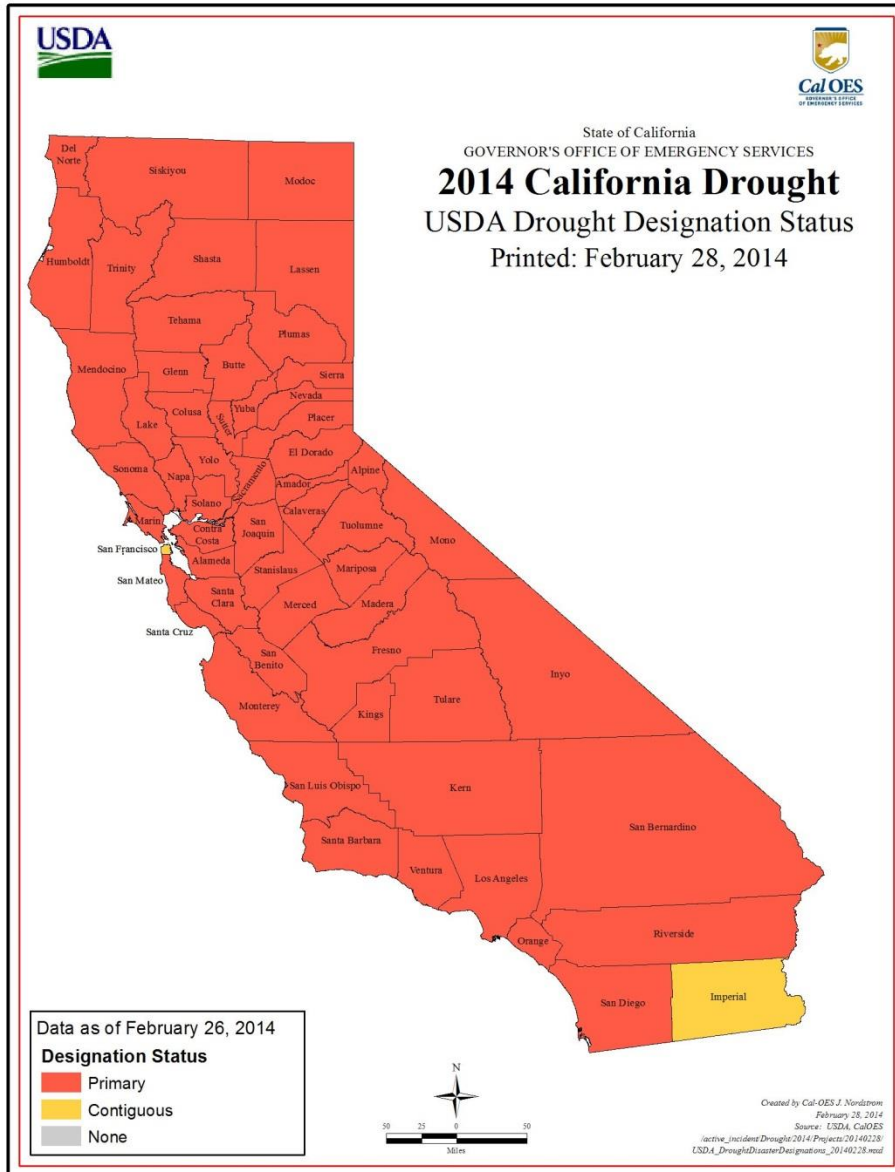
Hoopa Valley Reservation (1/20/14)
Yurok Reservation (1/29/14)
Tule River Indian Tribe (1/30/14)

Federal

None



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USDA Disaster Designation

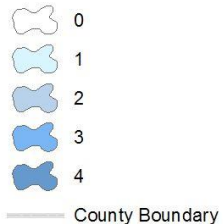
The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a secretarial disaster designation identifying 57 counties in California as primary natural disaster areas due to drought and 1 contiguous county. This means that every county in California is now eligible to receive assistance.

2014 SBA* DISASTERS

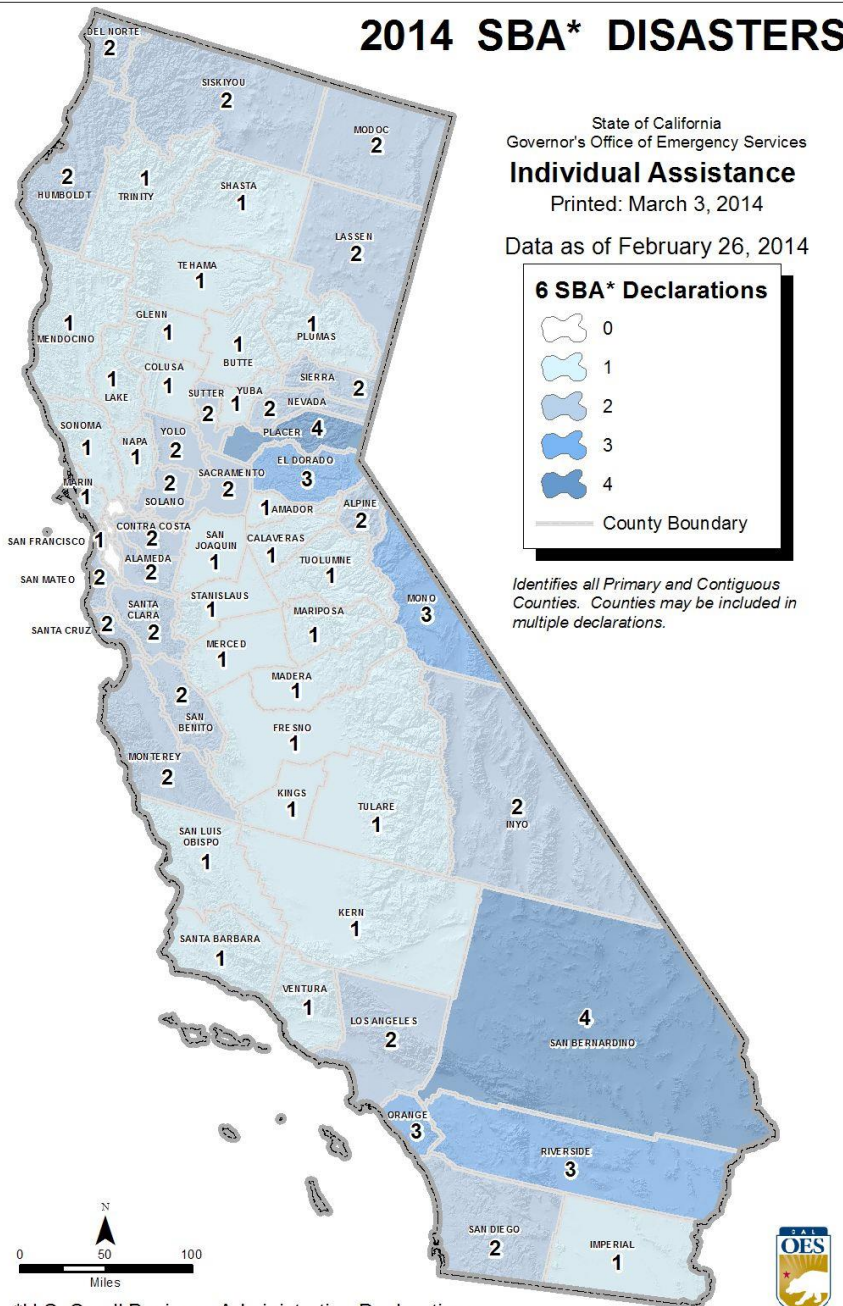
State of California
Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Individual Assistance
Printed: March 3, 2014

Data as of February 26, 2014

6 SBA* Declarations



Identifies all Primary and Contiguous Counties. Counties may be included in multiple declarations.



*U.S. Small Business Administration Declarations

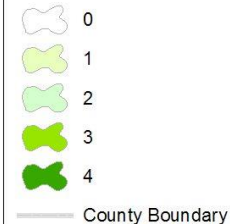


2014 USDA** DISASTERS

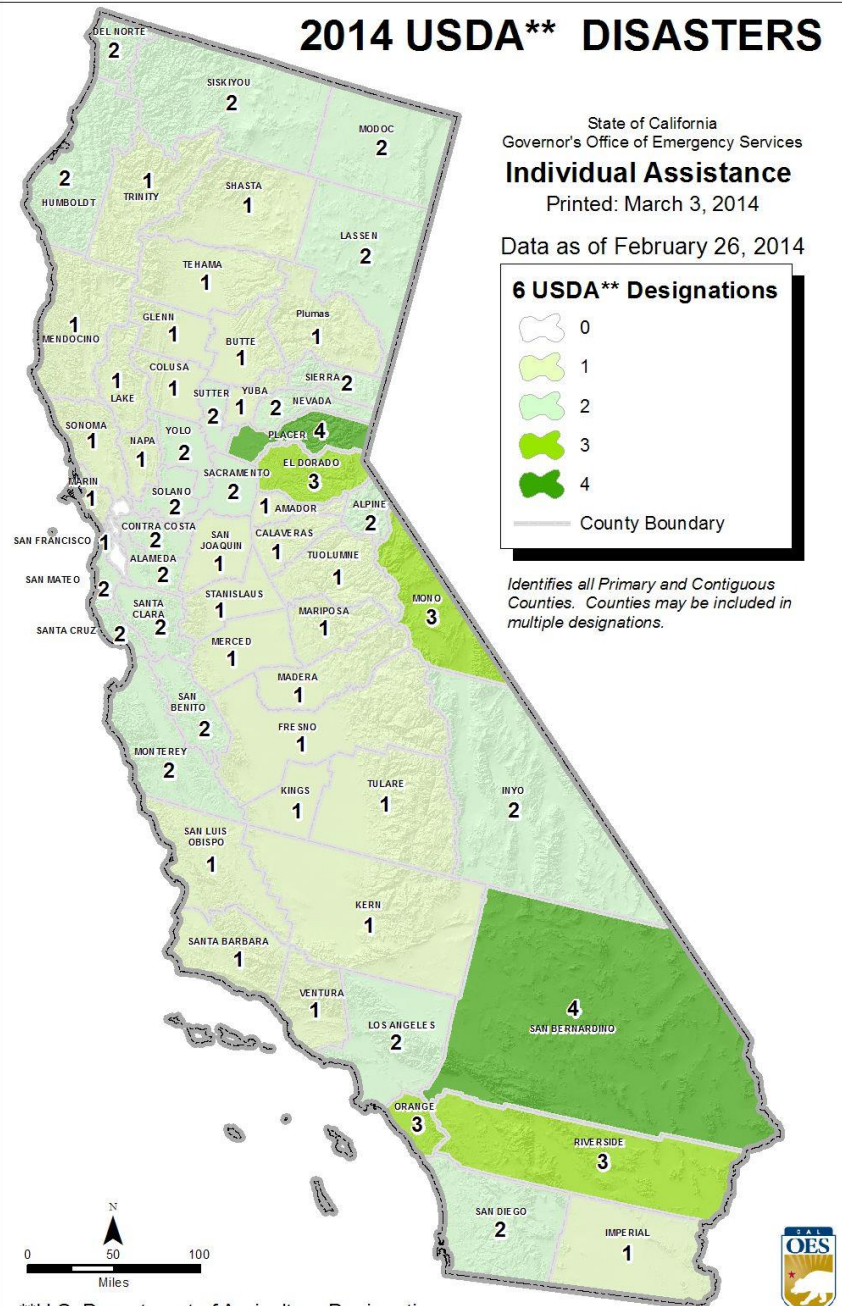
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**U.S. Department of Agriculture Designations

